Joel Cohen 109 San Carlos Ave El Cerrito CA 94530

Sep 5th 2018

Via ECFS Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1

Dear FCC,

I am a consumer who supports broadband competition.

For the longest time we have been slaves to the big two service providers in our region. No competitive pricing, internet service had to be bundled with useless and unused cable or other services that typically contained hidden fees, pricing had to be renegotiated on an annual basis, and customer service was generally terrible - both technical and sales. Because of the lack of competition, there were no incentives for service improvements despite steadily increasing fees.

When a new local service provider (Sonic) recently started providing broadband fiber access in our neighborhood (the first of its kind in our area), we made the switch. The customer service is absolutely excellent. We only pay for what we want. The pricing is competitive. And the quality of the broadband internet service is 10x better

The legacy providers in our area have become bloated and lazy with their monopolies on internet and cable service. We need to make sure there is more competition in our local market to keep them in check, and the quality of service high.

Thank you for considering my opinions on this matter.

Joel Cohen